

## Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 IO-13 NSAE-00

USIA-06 PRS-01 EA-07 /040 W  
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R 211710Z SEP 76  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: UNESCO, PORG, OCON  
SUBJECT: INFORMATION GROUP DISCUSSION CONCERNING DRAFT  
DECLARATION ON THE USE OF THE MASS MEDIA

REF: STATE 229731

1. THE DRAFT DECLARATION ON THE USE OF THE MASS MEDIA  
WAS PRINCIPAL TOPIC OF DISCUSSION AT SEPT 17 INFORMATION  
GROUP MEETING.

2. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR TO UNESCO, LUDOVICO CARDUCCI,  
PRESENTED A SUMMARY OF HIS INFORMAL TALKS ON SEPT 7 WITH  
DG M'BOW WHICH HAD BEEN COMMISSION BY IG. FULL TEXT IS  
BEING FORWARDED SEPTTEL.

3. CARDUCCI REPORTED TO IG THAT HE HAD UNDERLINED FOR  
DG IG MEMBERS COMMON CONCERN THAT MASS MEDIA DECLARATION  
ISSUE WOULD DEEPLY DIVIDE DELEGATIONS AT GEN CONF. AND  
ASKED M'BOW'S ADVICE ON HOW TO AVOID SPLIT; POINTED OUT  
THAT IG MEMBERS BELIEVED DRAFT RESOLUTION ONE-SIDED,  
GENERALLY UNACCEPTABLE DOCUMENT, WHICH COULD NOT BE MADE  
ACCEPTABLE SIMPLY BY AMENDING TEXT; AND EMPHASIZED THAT  
IG POSITION WAS NOT NEGATIVE AND MERELY DEVOTED TO  
POSTPONING DEBATE, BUT WAS CONCERNED THAT MEMBER STATES  
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BE GIVEN TIME AND OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE USE OF STUDIES AND

NEW APPROACHES TO ISSUE WHICH BE UNDERSTOOD WERE UNDER WAY.

4. DG M'BOW RESPONDED THAT "CONFLICTUAL ITEMS" SUCH AS MASS MEDIA DRAFT DECLARATION MIGHT BE SUBMITTED TO THE NEOGOTIATING GROUP, REFERRED TO AS WORKING GROUP 1 (WG 1)--WHICH PRESUMABLY WILL BE CREATED BY THE GEN CONFERENCE.

5. THOUGH M'BOW DID NOT SPECULATE ABOUT POSSIBLE OUTCOME OF UPCOMING DEBATE ON MASS MEDIA ISSUE, HE TOLD CARDUCCI THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO HAVE ITEM DELETED FROM GEN CONF AGENDA WOULD BE "INADVISABLE AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE." HE SUGGESTED THAT IG MEMBERS SHOULD UNDERTAKE "INTENSIVE DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY" IN VARIOUS CAPITALS TO EXPLAIN PURPOSE AND REASONING OF IG POSITION, AND BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS WHAT IG MEMBERS ARE WILLING TO GIVE ON THIS ISSUE.

6. IN DISCUSSIONS WHICH FOLLOWED AMBASSADOR CARDUCCI'S PRESENTATION, ALMOST ALL IG MEMBERS CONCEDED THAT ATTEMPT SHOULD NOT BE MADE TO HAVE MASS MEDIA ISSUE STRICKEN FROM GEN CONF AGENDA. SWEDISH REPRESENTATIVE ALONE DEMURED, SAYING HIS GOVERNMENT'S CURRENT INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO SEEK POSTPONEMENT OF ISSUE UNTIL AFTER GEN CONF.

7. IG MEMBERS ALL AGREED THAT WAY SHOULD BE SOUGHT TO HAVE GEN CONF CONCUR IN RECONVENING MEETING OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS AFTER GEN CONF TO RECONSIDER ITS DRAFT DECLARATION. ALTHOUGH NO FINAL BATTLE PLAN EMERGED, IG MEMBERS FELL INTO LINE BEHIND APPROACH THAT IG MASS MEDIA POSITION BE PLACED BEFORE WG 1 WHICH WOULD RECOMMEND TO GEN CONF THAT MEETING OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS BE RECONVENED AFTER GEN CONF. THE SECRETARIAT ALSO FAVORS THIS APPROACH.

8. IT WAS ALSO REPORTED THAT ADG NAJMAN HAD RAISED POSSIBILITY THAT THE EXBD MIGHT BE INDUCED TO SWITCH GEN CONF AGENDA ITEMS 4 AND 5 SO THAT BUREAU OF GEN CONF WOULD BE ELECTED (ITEM 5) PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF AGENDA (ITEM 4).  
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THIS WOULD GIVE BUREAU OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS AGENDA AND HOPEFULLY TO ASSIGN MASS MEDIA ISSUE TO WORKING GROUP 1 BEFORE ADOPTION OF AGENDA IN PLENARY. US PERM REP REPORTED THAT BOISSIER-PALUN HAD INDEPENDENTLY SUGGESTED SAME APPROACH TO HIM. US PERM REP, PER INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL, ALSL URGED IG MEMBERS TO INITIATE OR CONTINUE THEIR DEMARCHES IN LDC CAPITALS AS WELL AS AT UNESCO.

9. AMBASSADOR PETERSEN CONTINUED TO URGE MEMBERS THAT IG SHOULD BE ABLE TO PRESENT IT OWN DRAFT RESOLUTION AS AN ALTERNATE TEXT. SINCE TELEGRAM PRESENTING DEPARTMENT'S REVISED MASS MEDIA DRAFT ARRIVED AFTER MEETING HAD BEGUN, WE WERE UNABLE TO DISCUSS OR DISTRIBUTE IT AT THAT TIME. HOWEVER, US DEL NOTED RECEIPT OF US VERSION NEW TEXT AND PROMISED DISTRIBUTE TO IG MEMBERS. IN LINE WITH DEPT'S ANALYSIS PER REFTTEL, AMBASSADOR PETERSEN DID SAY THAT GERMAN DRAFT ATTEMPTED TO KEEP AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO DECEMBER DRAFT DECLARATION TEXT, THEREBY TRYING TO COVER CONCERN OF LDC'S WHILE LEAVING OUT OBJECTIONABLE PASSAGES.

10. IG WILL MEET AGAIN THURSDAY 23RD OF FRIDAY 24TH. JAPAN WILL BE IN CHAIR.RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INFORMATION MEDIA, TEXT, AGREEMENT DRAFT, POLICIES, INFORMATION CONTROL, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976PARIS27572  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760357-0529  
**From:** PARIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760937/aaaabfly.tel  
**Line Count:** 131  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION L  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 229731  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INFORMATION GROUP DISCUSSION CONCERNING DRAFT DECLARATION ON THE USE OF THE MASS MEDIA  
**TAGS:** PORG, OCON, UNESCO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006